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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/673,832	09/01/2000	Matty J. Hartogs	11371	5806

7590 04/22/2002

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EXAMINER

BARR, MICHAEL E

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
1762	3

DATE MAILED: 04/22/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/673,832	HARTOGS ET AL
Examiner	Art Unit	
Michael Barr	1762	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-8 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-3 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) 4-8 is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____

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DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. Acknowledgment is made of applicant's claim for foreign priority based on an application filed in Europe on 7/16/99. It is noted, however, that applicant has not filed a certified copy of the European application as required by 35 U.S.C. 119(b). The present application does not contain a copy of the request concerning filing under 35 USC 371, form PCT/DO/EO/1390 or PTO-1390. It is requested that the applicant submit a copy of this paper to be placed in the file to prevent unnecessary processing delaying in the future.

Claim Objections

3. Claims 4-8 are objected to under 37 CFR 1.75(c) as being in improper form because a multiple dependent claim cannot depend from another multiple dependent claim. See MPEP § 608.01(n). Accordingly, the claims have not been further treated on the merits.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

5. Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by GB 979,779 by Schneble et al. ("Schneble").

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Schnable teaches mixing a resin (plastic) with particles of copper oxide (catalyst) and then milling the mixture, which indicates granulation of the resin and particles, then molding the resin and copper oxide into a shaped body, such as a circuit board, then removing a surface layer of the resin to expose the copper oxide, then activating the copper oxide with an acid, and then electrolessly plating the shaped body with an electroless plating bath (Pg. 2-Pg. 3).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. Claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schnable as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Krulik.

Schnable is applied here for the same reasons as given above. Schnable fails to teach that the resin is removed by an alkaline solution. Krulik teaches etching the surface of a circuit board made of a resin, where the resin is etched by exposure to an alkaline solution (Abstract; Col. 7, line 62-Col. 8, line 18). It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art to use an alkaline solution to remove the resin from the shaped body of Schnable, with the expectation providing the desired resin removal, since it is shown by Krulik that alkaline solutions are known for resin etching of circuit boards.

8. Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schnable as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Ambros et al.

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Schneble is applied here for the same reasons as given above. Schneble fails to teach that the circuit board is formed by injection molding. Ambros et al. teaches forming a circuit board by injection molding of resin and catalyst granulates (Col. 4, lines 14-48). It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art to form the circuit board of Schneble by injection molding of the resin and catalyst granulates, since it is shown by Ambros et al. that injection molding is a known and conventional method of forming circuit boards from granulates of resin mixed with catalyst, as in Schneble.

Conclusion

9. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Seeger and Walpita et al. are cited as prior art of interest.

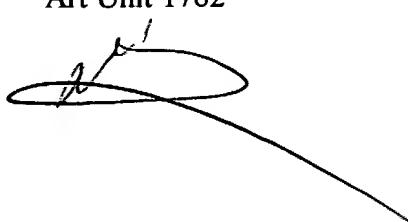
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael Barr whose telephone number is 703-305-7919. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday 6:00 am-4:30 pm.

10. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Shrive Beck can be reached on 703-308-2333. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-305-5408 for regular communications and 703-872-9311 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0661.

Michael Barr
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1762

MB
April 17, 2002

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Barr", is written over a large, roughly circular, open-loop flourish.